similar to the one to be completed at Kitt Peak, funding had not been requested at the time of writing. Design of the European telescope, which continues to benefit from generous cooperation from AURA, is well advanced, to the point where a choice can be made of the supplier of the blank, and the money has been pledged for its construction. In describing the advantages of a fused silica block, spokesmen of the European organization spoke often of the lower coefficient of thermal expansion of quartz, and had not used an imprecise word like "rigidity."

V. K. McElheny
18 Kensington Court Place, London, W.8, England

Oral Reports

The effectiveness of the "short" paper (10 to 15 minutes) at major scientific meetings might be considerably enhanced if speakers would abandon the classic format of the printed article and, instead, use the following order: (i) background information (if needed); (ii) conclusions of present report; (iii) methods; (iv) results; (v) discussion (if needed); (vi) conclusions repeated.

Conclusions cannot be evaluated properly without consideration of the methods used to collect the data. The reader of a printed paper has the chance to flip back and forth among the pages; the listener at a meeting must depend on his memory. If the listener were to be told first the use that was made of the data, he then could evaluate the methods in this light. I believe that papers delivered orally according to this format would be more interesting and informative and, further, would provoke more useful questions and discussion.

Bernard K. Forscher
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

NIH Career Awards

Before I state my profound disapproval of the attitude expressed by I. D. J. Bross in his letter on NIH Career Awards (19 Mar., p. 1395), I want to establish my credentials. First, I am an active researcher. Although I am an administrator (chairman of a large department) and teacher (43 class hours this April), I manage to spend about half my time in my laboratory. I have published three papers in the last 12 months, and I have two in press. On all I am first or sole author, because I did most of the work described. Second, I am grateful for NIH-NSF support of research, not only because it has multiplied resources but because it has given a healthy independence to every scientist competent to command such support. No man or woman in my department need say "Yes, sir" to me in order to be able to work.

The job of a university administrator is to create an atmosphere in which good people can do good teaching and research, and the job of a university faculty member is to teach, to do research, and to carry some of the administrative burden according to his interests and abilities. Teaching at all levels, undergraduate, professional, and graduate, is a job worth doing and doing well.

There has grown up since the war a new generation of faculty members, nursed on NIH-NSF support, which regards its own research productivity as its only valid contribution to society. To members of this group, research alone is a positive good, and administration and teaching, because they interfere with research, are evils. A man who holds such views may have his home most appropriately in a research institute; he does not belong on a university faculty. Since universities, imperfect though they may be, are still our chief means of accumulating, preserving, and transmitting knowledge, scientists and supporting agencies should seek to strengthen universities in all their functions. I believe NIH, NSF, and other granting agencies do understand this obligation, and I am sure that most faculty members cheerfully accept it as well. Any scheme of outside support which allows a faculty member flatly to refuse to accept his just share of teaching and administration is destructive of the best interests of both the university and its faculty, and a scientist who accepts such support without accepting his university obligations is a parasite.

Horace W. Davenport
Department of Physiology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

. . . The scientist is right in asking for the privilege of doing as he pleases as soon as he has credentials, but the judgment should come from his super-